





CHERYL M. POTTS

COPYRIGHT & ROYALTY ADMIN & FOUNDER
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For over 19 years through her firm Crystal Clear Music, Ms. Potts has been a Copyright & Royalty Administrator for independent record labels and music publishers. She provides music licensing, copyright registration, royalty accounting, royalty collections and more. She was requested by the U.S. Copyright Office for her thoughts on behalf of independent music creators during the music license study. Her comments were included in the final study that was sent to U.S. Congress. The music license study became the foundation of the Music Modernization Act signed into law in 2018. She has been awarded several gold & platinum albums for administration work on behalf of record labels that reached RIAA status. Many in the music industry asked Ms. Potts to provide a deep dive music publishing class to assist them grow in their music career. So she decided to create one! In 2022 Ms. Potts was elected officer of the board of Association of Independent Music Publishers for the Atlanta chapter. Ms. Potts is also the founder of Cleerkut, a software development firm and creator of Cleerkut Royalty – a platform for self-released artists, songwriters, producers, record labels and music publishers to administer their own publishing and sound recordings. Cleerkut also developed LicenseYourSong.com a platform for indie music creators to issue their own mechanical licenses for the songs they create.

Ms. Potts began her music career as an independent music publisher but later moved into administration for both publishers and record labels. While many in the industry knew Ms. Potts as an Copyright & Royalty Administrator, many did not know for over 20 years Ms. Potts also worked as a software engineer building enterprise software for other companies. Later when Ms. Potts had a need to automate many of her administration tasks, she started thinking of building a solution herself. It wasn't until a self-released artist mentioned that she too was unable to find a viable solution that she could use to administer her 'own' publishing and recording label and asked to please think of her when building a solution... and with that *Cleerkut Royalty* was born.

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| Selected by the U.S. Copyright Office for her views on behalf of independent musicians regarding possible changes to the U.S. Compulsory License & audits. | Elected officer of the board for the <i>Association of Independent Music Publishers - Atlanta (AIMPATL)</i> . |
| Provided worldwide royalty audit on a multi-platinum album uncovering over \$300,000 in unpaid royalties in a royalty dispute with a major production company. | Provided recording label administration of numerous albums that reached #1 on the Billboard charts on behalf of independent record labels. |
| Successfully challenged and overturned copyright dispute with major record label over composition on behalf of our Songwriter. | Successfully obtained past and future mechanical royalties on behalf of Songwriter in a dispute over non-payment of royalties. |
| Received numerous certified RIAA Gold & Platinum Albums as the Copyright & Royalty Administrator on the recording label releases. | Successfully challenged and overturned performance rights registration of composition that was filed in a copyright dispute on behalf of our Songwriter. |
| Successfully collected royalties on behalf of our client on unauthorized use of client's song on an award winning platinum album. | Audited a <i>Copyright Law</i> class at University of Chapel Hill (UNC). |